## David F. Zentner

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January 15, 2003

JAN 15 2003

Water Docket, Environmental Protection Agency Mailcode 4101T 12090 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20460

Attention Docket ID No.OW-2002-0050

Subject: US Army Corps of Engineers/Environmental Protection Agency Clean Water Act Rule Making

The recent advance notice of proposed rule making requests information or data from the general public, the scientific community, etc.

I was involved as a citizen during the initiation of what is now called the Clean Water Act back in the 60's and the 70's. It was clearly the intent of Congress to protect small, isolated, seasonal wetlands under section 404 of what became Public Law 92-500.

In spite of the narrow interpretation of the Supreme Court in the so-called Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County vs. US Army Corps of Engineers, protecting small wetlands was the intent of Congress, and that is the way that the Corps of Engineers and Environmental Protection Agency should continue to administer the law. There is significant evidence to support this. It is disappointing to see evidence in the release associated with the Advance Notice of Proposed Rule Making making it look as though the Bush Administration intends to follow a narrow definition that will give joy to developers and put in peril what is left of the small remaining amount of isolated, seasonal, and critically important wetlands.

Rule Making should make it clear that there must be an effort to ascertain the intent of Congress, not react to one court case to further endanger some of the few, but remaining priceless and very productive small wetlands that we have.

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Sincerely,

David F. Zentner

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Past National President Izaak Walton League of America

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